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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/856,549 | 09/07/2001 | Roberto Messana | RC/MF-39639 | 9821 |

466 7590 08/11/2003

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EXAMINER

CIRIC, LJILJANA V

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3743

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Response to Amendment

1. Receipt and entry of the reply filed on May 27, 2003, including the amendment to the claims, is hereby acknowledged.
2. Nevertheless, the reply filed on May 27, 2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): (a) applicant's argument (with regard to the objection to the drawings as cited by the examiner in the previous Office action) that lines (L) are shown in Figure 1 "and their simplified recitation in claim 6 is thus amply supported by the disclosure" is not understood since claim 6 has been canceled; (b) applicant has failed to provide support as required for any of the newly added claims 21 through 40; and, with regard to form and definiteness, newly added claims 21 through 40 generally fail to be a significant improvement over the originally presented claims.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ljiljana (Lil) V. Ciric, whose telephone number is (703) 308-3925. While she works a flexible schedule that varies from day to day and from week to week, Examiner Ciric

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may generally be reached at the Office during the work week between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Bennett, can be reached on (703) 308-0101. The fax phone number is (703) 305-3463.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861.

lvc

August 7, 2003



LJILJANA V. CIRIC
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3743